IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-23 and add claims 24-33.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

1-23. (Canceled).

24. (New) A method for identifying a compound capable of modulating apoptosis, the method comprising:

a) combining a test compound with a sample comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

i) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 95% identical to a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4; and

ii) an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3; under conditions suitable for the test compound to modulate the glycerophosphoryl phosphodiester phosphodiesterase activity of the polypeptide;

b) assaying the ability of the test compound to modulate the glycerophosphoryl phosphodiester phosphodiesterase activity of the polypeptide;

c) combining the compound selected in part b) with a cell expressing the polypeptide; and

d) determining the effect of the compound on apoptosis of the cell;

thereby identifying a compound capable of modulating apoptosis.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the sample comprises the polypeptide or a cell expressing the polypeptide.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the cell is a brain cell or a neuron.

27. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the cell is a brain cell or a neuron.

28. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the compound is a small molecule, a peptide, or an antibody.

29. (New) A method for identifying a compound capable of modulating apoptosis,

the method comprising:

a) combining a test compound with a sample comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

i) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4; and

ii) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3;

under conditions suitable for the test compound to modulate the glycerophosphoryl phosphodiester phosphodiesterase activity of the polypeptide;

b) assaying the ability of the test compound to modulate the glycerophosphoryl phosphodiester phosphodiesterase activity of the polypeptide;

c) combining the compound selected in part b) with a cell expressing the polypeptide; and

d) determining the effect of the compound on apoptosis of the cell;

thereby identifying a compound capable of modulating apoptosis.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the sample comprises the polypeptide or a cell expressing the polypeptide.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the cell is a brain cell or a neuron.

32. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the cell is a brain cell or a neuron.

33. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the compound is a small molecule, a peptide, or an antibody.